

Quick Check: Remarks for Randy for call with Senators

From: "Nathoo, Farees" <[REDACTED]>
To: "Hurl, David" <david.hurl@fin.gc.ca>, "Meredith, Tyler" <tyler.meredith@fin.gc.ca>
Cc: "Kropman, Alexann" <alexann.kropman@fin.gc.ca>, "Wozny, Alexander" <alexander.wozny@fin.gc.ca>
Date: Mon, 21 Feb 2022 01:01:21 +0000
Attachments: Speaking Points – Minister Boissonault 21 February 2022.docx (17.96 kB)

Hi gents –

Any comments on the text below (also attached)? Based heavily of content you've already approved in the form of remarks the DPM delivered, or responses we've provided directly to Senators.

Let us know and thank you,
Farees

Speaking Points – Minister Boissonault

Informal Briefing for Senators on the Emergencies Act – 21 February 2022

Bonsoir a tous les honorables Sénateurs et Senatrices. Merci beaucoup pour nous rejoindre ce soir.

In addition to the threats to peace, order, and good government laid out by my colleagues Minister Lametti and Mendicino, I also wanted to highlight the economic impact of these illegal blockades.

- The blockade of the Ambassador Bridge affected about \$390 million in trade *each day*. This bridge supports 30 percent of all trade by road between Canada and the United States, our most important trading partner.
- In Coutts, Alberta, about \$48 million in daily trade was affected by the blockades.
- In Emerson, Manitoba, about \$73 million in daily trade was been affected by the blockades.

And, law enforcement continue to thwart threats of further blockades.

So, the specific financial measures we've introduced as orders under the Emergencies Act include:

L'élargissement de la portée des règles canadiennes de lutte contre le blanchiment d'argent et le financement du terrorisme afin qu'elles s'appliquent aux plateformes de sociofinancement et à leurs fournisseurs de services de paiement. Et obliger ces derniers à déclarer les transactions importantes et douteuses au Centre d'analyse (CANAFE).

Directing our financial institutions to freeze or suspend the accounts of individuals and businesses affiliated with the illegal blockades;

Demander aux institutions financières de réévaluer leurs liens avec toute personne impliquée dans les barrages et d'en aviser nos organismes de sécurité nationale.

And providing federal, provincial, and territorial government institutions with the authority to share information with banks and financial services providers that will help put a stop to the funding of illegal blockades and illegal activities.

The government is in touch with the heads of our major banks, with the Director of FINTRAC, and with the Commissioner of the RCMP, to discuss next steps.

These measures are having an impact. As my colleague Minister Mendicino laid out on Friday, 76 bank accounts worth a combined \$3.2 million were frozen.

I also wanted to respond to a specific question we have heard from Senators.

I understand that there are concerns about individuals who have donated small sums of money to these illegal blockades.

While I can't speak to specific cases, I can say that the Orders under the Emergencies Act took effect on February 15th, and they do not apply retroactively. An account could be frozen if the individual provided financial support after the 15th or is still providing financial support directly or indirectly to these unlawful assemblies. The focus of this order is on individuals and entities identified by law enforcement who are currently participating in, or actively financially supporting, the illegal blockades.

Merci, et nous sommes prêts pour votre questions.

Farees Nathoo

Cabinet de la Vice-première ministre et ministre des Finances | Office of the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance

Personal Info.